

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 NEA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00

NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 PM-04 H-01

INR-07 L-03 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

AID-05 COME-00 EB-07 FRB-03 TRSE-00 XMB-02

OPIC-03 LAB-04 EPG-02 SIL-01 OMB-01 /113 W

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O 111022Z JUL 77

FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0758

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY VALLETTA

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY RABAT

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

USMISSION GENEVA

USMISSION NATO

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

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ALSO FOR USEEC

NOFORN

E.O. 11652: GDS-1

TAGS: PFOR, EEC, XF, XA, BE

SUBJECT: BELGIAN EC PRESIDENCY: JULY 7-9 POLITICAL
DIRECTORS DISCUSS AFRICA AND EURO-ARAB DIALOGUE

1. AFRICA: THE EC POLITICAL DIRECTORS HAD AN EXTENSIVE EXCHANGE OF VIEWS ON AFRICA AND CONCLUDED THAT THE NINE FOREIGN MINISTERS SHOULD HOLD A DETAILED DISCUSSION OF AFRICAN ISSUES AT THEIR JULY 12 MEETING IN BRUSSELS. STRESSING THAT THE NINE HAVE BEEN "HARMONIZING THEIR VIEWS" ON AFRICA RECENTLY, BELGIAN MFA PRESIDENCY DIRECTOR (DE SCHOUTHEETE) TOLD US HE EXPECTS SOUTH AFRICA AND RHODESIA TO GET EXTENSIVE ATTENTION OF FOREIGN MINISTERS AT THAT TIME. EXPERTS WORKING PAPERS ON SOUTH AFRICA, HORN OF AFRICA, AND SOVIET POLICY IN SOUTHERN AFRICA WERE BEING FORWARDED TO THE FOREIGN MINISTERS TO SERVE AS A BASIS FOR THEIR DISCUSSION.

2. DE SCHOUTHEETE SAID THAT THE NINE WOULD "PROBABLY" HAVE A COMMON STATEMENT FOR SUBMISSION AT THE AUGUST LAGOS CONFERENCE ON APARTHEID. FOREIGN MINISTERS WOULD DISCUSS APARTHEID AS PART OF THEIR JULY 12 CONSIDERATION OF SOUTH AFRICA.

3. EURO-ARAB DIALOGUE: POLITICAL DIRECTORS HEARD ORAL REPORT OF AMBASSADOR PATERNOTTE, MFA MIDDLE EAST DIRECTOR AND THE NINE'S CO-PRESIDENT OF THE EURO-ARAB DIALOGUE, ON HIS JULY 5-6 MEETINGS IN CAIRO WITH
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ARAB LEAGUE SECRETARY RIAD AND ARAB CO-PRESIDENT (ALGERIAN AMBASSADOR). ACCORDING TO DE SCHOUTHEETE, POLITICAL DIRECTORS FOUND PATERNOTTE'S REPORT "POSITIVE" AND NOTED A SENSE OF CONTINUED INTEREST ON THE PART OF THE ARAB LEAGUE IN THE DIALOGUE. POLITICAL DIRECTORS CITED NEED TO "STREAMLINE" EURO-ARAB DIALOGUE MACHINERY AND CUT BACK ON BUREAUCRACY. THE DIRECTORS DETERMINED THAT THE FOREIGN MINISTERS SHOULD GIVE SOME "POSITIVE ENCOURAGEMENT" TO THE EURO-ARAB DIALOGUE. DE SCHOUTHEETE SAID THIS WOULD NOT HAPPEN AT THE JULY 12 FOREIGN MINISTERS MEETING SINCE NINE WERE "NOT READY" BUT SAID IT WOULD TAKE PLACE AT A MINISTERS MEETING LATER IN THE YEAR. CHAMBERS

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Message Attributes

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